



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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**DA 22-1309**

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## **MEDIA BUREAU EXTENDS COMMENT AND REPLY COMMENT DEADLINES FOR SECOND NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING REGARDING SPONSORSHIP IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENT-PROVIDED PROGRAMMING**

**MB Docket No. 20-299**

**Extended Comment Deadline: January 9, 2023**

**Extended Reply Comment Deadline: January 24, 2023**

By this Public Notice, the Media Bureau extends the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments in the above-captioned proceeding. On October 6, 2022, the Commission released a Second Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (*Second Notice*) seeking comment on new rules to strengthen the process for identifying foreign governmental entities.<sup>1</sup> The *Second Notice* specified comment and reply comment dates of 30 and 45 days, respectively, after Federal Register publication.<sup>2</sup> That publication occurred on November 17, 2022, and on November 18, 2022, the Media Bureau released a Public Notice (*Public Notice*), announcing a comment filing deadline of December 19, 2022, and a reply comment filing deadline of January 3, 2023, for the *Second Notice*.<sup>3</sup>

On December 7, 2022, the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) (collectively, Joint Filers) requested an extension of the comment and reply comment filing deadlines until January 9 and January 24, 2023, respectively.<sup>4</sup> The Joint Filers correctly note that “three significant Federal holidays” occur during the comment cycle.<sup>5</sup> Citing holiday-related closures, the Joint Filers explain how it is “challenging” under the original filing deadline “to gather relevant information from individual broadcasters and lessees affected by the proposed rules, build useful consensus around

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<sup>1</sup> *Sponsorship Identification Requirements for Foreign Government-Provided Programming*, MB Docket No. 20-299, Second Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 22-77 (2022) (*Second NPRM*).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Comment and Reply Comment Dates Set for Second Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Regarding Sponsorship Identification Requirements for Foreign Government-Provided Programming*, MB Docket No. 20-299, Public Notice, DA 22-1211 (MB November 18, 2022).

<sup>4</sup> Motion for Extension of Time of the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), MB Docket No. 20-299 (filed Dec. 7, 2022) (Joint Filers Motion).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 3.

the issues in this proceeding, and draft comments and reply comments.”<sup>6</sup> A coalition of religious organizations (the Religious Programmers) filed in support of the Joint Filers’ Motion, also noting the difficulties presented by the intervening holidays.<sup>7</sup>

As set forth in section 1.46(a) of the Commission’s rules,<sup>8</sup> the Commission’s policy is that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted. We find, however, that the Joint Filers have provided sufficient justification to warrant grant of their requested extension. As an extension should enable interested parties to present more complete and thoughtful comments to the Commission, we agree with the Joint Filers that the extension should not disadvantage any party or cause significant delay in the resolution of this proceeding.<sup>9</sup>

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Radhika Karmarkar, Industry Analysis Division, Media Bureau, [Radhika.Karmarkar@fcc.gov](mailto:Radhika.Karmarkar@fcc.gov) or (202) 418-1523. Press inquiries should be directed to Katie Gorscak, [Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov](mailto:Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov) or (202) 418-8165.

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> Comments in Support of Motion for Extension of Time of the Religious Programmers, MB Docket No. 20-299 (filed Dec. 9, 2022).

<sup>8</sup> 47 CFR § 1.46(a).

<sup>9</sup> See Joint Filers Motion at 4.